

I watch television; sometimes I record television shows. And I oppose the proposed Broadcast Flag.

I enjoy the flexibility and control that modern technology gives me. I am not a passive recipient of content; I can modify, create, and participate. Technology gives me choices by allowing me to record a television program and watch it later, or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag is designed to remove the control and flexibility that I enjoy, and to impinge on my historic right to fair use of copyrighted material.

If preventing illegal copying and distribution comes at the cost of prohibiting me from making legal, personal use of televised material, then the FCC should work to protect all users rather than to protect those who would restrict viewers' rights. The broadcast flag will have little effect on theft, but will clearly diminish my rights.

I urge the FCC to require the entertainment industry to demonstrate that its proposed technologies will achieve their goals without restricting my rights. If they cannot, the FCC should not approve the broadcast flag.